current crushing season as on 7.6.2002 was 177.68 lakh MTs as against 180.51 lakh MTs as on 7.6.2001. The slight fall in the production of sugar this season is mainly due to unfavourable monsoon conditions and diversification of sugarcane for fooder purposes in Maharashtra.

(c) As on 7.6.2002, the stock of sugar with the sugar mills was 162.69 lakh MYs as compared to 164.41 lakh MYs on 7.6.2001.

(d) In order to boost the production of sugar, the sugar industry has been de-licensed with effect from September, 1998, allowing the entrepreneurs the freedom to set up new sugar factories or undertake expansion of the existing sugar factories keeping in view the techno-economic viability of their projects. Besides, loans from the Sugar Development Fund at concessional rates of interest for cane development, modernization/expansion and technological up-gradation are being given.

Economic Reforms in India

†*180. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Development and Reform Facility Fund with 2,500 crore of rupees was set up by Government to accelerate the pace of economic reforms in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the heads for which provision was made to provide amount from the said fund together with the amount earmarked for each of those heads; and

(c) the State in which the amount has so far been disbursed from this Fund by the end of June, 2002 together with the amount thereof in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The Development and Reform Facility (Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana) is a new initiative introducted in the Budget 2002-03 for which an amount of Rs. 2500 crore has been provided in Demand No. 30, "Transfers to State and Union Territory Governments" of the Ministry of Finance. No release have been made so far.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.